

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are pending in the Application. Claims 1 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). Claims 2-5 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections for at least the reasons presented in the response having a mailing date of February 14, 2003 and file a Notice of Appeal concurrently herewith.

CONCLUSION

As a result of the foregoing, it is asserted by Applicants that claims 1-7 in the application are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request an allowance of such claims.

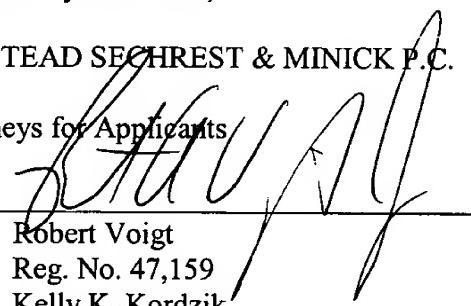
Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner call Applicants' attorney at the below listed number if the Examiner believes that such a discussion would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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